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Debra L. Holte



Signature of person making deposit

Debra L. Holte
861 South Steele Street
Denver, CO 80209
Patent Applicant
Application Number 10/822,481

4 March 2005

Honorable Son T. Nguyen,

May I commend the United States Patent Office and the examiners for their commitment of the accessibility of patents to "ordinary" people. The USPTO has gone to great lengths to provide useful and complete information to those who wish to file a patent by themselves. It allows people, regardless of their monetary situation or ability to afford an attorney, the ability to file for a patent. Thank you.

I have used the USPTO website extensively. The website and the USPTO email alerts provide helpful and constructive information to those like me who wish to file a patent. Mr. Nguyen, I have taken great pains to attempt to file this application properly, and spend your time wisely, but I need your direction on one item.

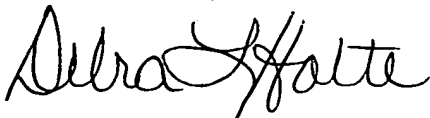
I have come to realize that I might improve the wording of my claims. Thank you, by the way, for correcting my references to independent claim 19 (not 18). In studying the corrections for my drawings, I realized that I did not use consistent language. Going back to the USPTO website and further studying properly drafting claims, I would like to add an additional independent claim, which I believe is more concisely and properly worded by USPTO standards.

USPTO allows three independent claims without further fees. My application had two independent fees, so a third may be added without additional fees. I am not sure the proper procedure to do this. In searching the website, I could not find information on the proper procedure to add an independent claim. As a result, I am including my original form PTO/SB/07 along with new copy of the form which reflects the changes.

I look to you for direction. I will gladly and promptly fill out any additional forms which you deem to be necessary.

One final comment, throughout my amendment, I have been conscious of not continuing a sentence or paragraph onto the next page. Although it makes the document longer, I believe it is easier for the reader to read (understanding that you must read numerous of these each day).

Thank you for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Debra L. Holte". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Debra" and last name "Holte" clearly distinguishable.

Debra L. Holte